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(54) COMPOSITE OXIDE CONTAINING LITHIUM AND NONAQUEOUS SECONDARY BATTERY HSING IT

(57)Abstract

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To realize a nonaqueous secondary battery having a high capacity, an excellent durability in cycling use, and a preservability under a high temperature by using a composite oxide containing lithium having a stabilized layered crystal structure, a high packability, an excellent durability in cycling use under a high temperature, and a stability in preserving under a high temperature.

SOLUTION: The composite oxide containing lithium, which is represented by the general formula: Li1+x+aNi(1-x-y+d)/2Mn(1-x-y-d)/2MyO2 [wherein, $0 \le x \le 0.05$; $-0.05 \le x + a \le 0.05$; $0 \le y \le x \le 0.05$; $-0.05 \le x + a \le 0.05$; $-0.05 \le$ 0.4; -0.1≤d≤0.1 (wherein, 0≤y≤0.2) or -0.24≤d≤0.24 (wherein, 0.2<y≤0.4); M is one or more elements selected from Mg, Ti, Cr, Fe, Co, Cu, Zn, Al, Ge, and Sn] and whose primary particles are agglomerated to form secondary particles, where the average particle diameter of the primary particles is $0.3-3 \mu m$ and that of the secondary particles is $5-20 \mu m$, is used as a cathode active material

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] General formula Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta)/2Mn(1-x-y-delta)/2MyO2[It corrects. It is 0.4×0.05 , -0.05×0.05 , and 0.4×0.05 , and 0.4

[Claim 2] The lithium content multiple oxide according to claim 1 characterized by being y> 0 and being one or more sorts of elements with which M contains Co at least in said general formula. [Claim 3] The lithium content multiple oxide according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by a BET specific surface area being 0.3-2m2/g.

[Claim 4] They are the positive electrode and negative electrode which use a lithium content multiple oxide as an active material, and the nonaqueous rechargeable battery equipped with nonaqueous electrolyte. the above-mentioned multiple oxide — general formula Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta) /2Mn(1-x-y-delta) /2My02[— however It is 0.5 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.05 < 1.0

[Claim 5] The nonaqueous rechargeable battery according to claim 4 characterized by being y> 0 and being one or more sorts of elements with which M contains Co at least in said general formula.

[Claim 6] The nonaqueous rechargeable battery according to claim 4 or 5 characterized by the BET specific surface area of a lithium content multiple oxide being 0.3–2m2/g.
[Claim 7] They are the positive electrode and negative electrode which use a lithium content multiple oxide as an active material, and the nonaqueous rechargeable battery equipped with nonaqueous electrolyte. As the above-mentioned multiple oxide at least — general formula Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta)/2Mn(1-x-y-delta)/2MyO2[-- however It is 0(=x<=0.05, -0.05 <= x+alpha <=0.05, and 0<=y<=0.4. - It is 0.1<=delta<=0.1 (at however, the time of 0<=y<=0.2), or -0.24<=delta<=0.24 (at however, the time of 0.25 y<=0.4). M - Mg - Ti - Cr - Fe - Co - Cu - Zn - aluminum — germanium — Sn - from — becoming — a group - from — choosing — having had — one — a sort — more than — an element —] — expressing — having — The lithium content multiple oxide A whose mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle it is the multiple oxide which the primary particle condensed and formed the aggregated

particle, and is 5-20 micrometers The nonaqueous rechargeable battery characterized by mixing and using the lithium content multiple oxide B which has mean particle diameter smaller than the mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle of said multiple oxide A.

[Claim 8] The nonaqueous rechargeable battery according to claim 7 characterized by being [of the lithium content multiple oxide B] 10 - 40% of the weight of the whole positive active material comparatively.

[Claim 9] The nonaqueous rechargeable battery according to claim 7 or 8 with which mean particle diameter of the lithium content multiple oxide B is characterized by being 3/5 or less [of the mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle of the lithium content multiple oxide A 1.

[Claim 10] The nonaqueous rechargeable battery according to claim 7 to 9 characterized by being the multiple oxide with which the primary particle condensed and the lithium content multiple oxide B formed the aggregated particle.

[Claim 11] [whether the lithium content multiple oxide B is the same presentation as the lithium content multiple oxide A, and] Or it is general formula Li1+4+BR1-aO2[however $0 \le a \le 0.05$, and $-0.05 \le a + b \le -0.05$. R — Mg — Ti — Cr — Fe — Co — Cu — Zn — aluminum — germanium — Sn — from — becoming — a group — from — choosing — having had — one — a sort — more than — an element —] — expressing — having — things — the description — ** — carrying out — being according to claim 7 to 10 — nonaqueous — a rechargeable battery .

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the nonaqueous rechargeable battery which has improved the cycle property and preservation property in an elevated temperature a lithium content multiple oxide available to the positive active material of a nonaqueous rechargeable battery etc., and by using it for a positive electrode.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] In recent years, with development of portable electronic equipment, such as a cellular phone and a notebook sized personal computer, utilization of an electric vehicle, etc., it is a small light weight and the rechargeable battery of high capacity has come to be needed. As a high capacity rechargeable battery which meets current and this demand, the nonaqueous rechargeable battery using the carbon system ingredient as a negative-electrode active material is commercialized, using LiCoO2 as a positive-electrode ingredient. The above-mentioned nonaqueous rechargeable battery has a high energy density, and since it can attain small and lightweight-ization, it attracts attention as a power source of portable electronic equipment. LiCoO2 currently used as a positive-electrode ingredient of this nonaqueous rechargeable battery is used abundantly as a suitable active material from manufacture being easy and handling being easy. However, LiCoO2 is expected that materials shortages will aggravate Co which is a rare metal from now on since it is manufactured as a raw material. Furthermore, Co is expensive, since price fluctuation is also large, it is cheap and development of the positive-electrode ingredient whose supply is stable is desired.

[0003] In view of the reason for the above, the price of a configuration element is cheap and promising ** of the multiple oxide ingredient of the lithium manganic acid ghost system which used as the configuration element Mn whose supply is stable is carried out. Also in it, research on LiMn 2O4 of the spinel type structure in which charge and discharge are possible, and layer-like LiMnO2 is briskly done in the electrical-potential-difference field of the 4V neighborhood to Li, and the lithium content multiple oxide which permuted a part of Mn of the above LiMnO2 with nickel, Co, aluminum, etc. especially is expected as an ingredient which replaces LiCoO2 (one to patent reference 3 reference).

[0004]

[Patent reference 1] JP,8-37007,A (paragraph number 0027-0029)

[Patent reference 2] JP,11-25957,A (paragraph number 0003-0008)

[Patent reference 3] JP,2000-223122,A (paragraph number 0002-0009)

[0005]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, as a result of this invention persons' performing examination detailed about the multiple oxide which permuted a part of Mn of the above LiMnO2 by nickel, Co, etc., it traced the presentation of a compound, and that physical properties, such as the structure, property, etc., changed notably according to the synthetic process until a quantitative ratio with a metallic element, the class of permutation element, a quantitative ratio, and a multiple oxide are especially formed in addition to this with Li etc. [0006] Especially when the permutation by nickel is performed, by the quantitative ratio of Mn

and nickel, and the quantitative ratio of these elements and the other permutation element The compound which was homogeneous and was excellent in the property if the physical properties of the multiple oxide compounded changed a lot, set the quantitative ratio of Mn and nickel to about 1:1 and did not make the fixed range the quantitative ratio of Mn and nickel, and the other permutation element is not obtained, it became clear Mn, to, change the true density of a multiple oxide sharply by the quantitative ratio of a permutation element and Li in addition to this, etc.

[0007] Furthermore, as for the shape of particle of the above-mentioned lithium content multiple oxide, the property of a cell also showed being influenced greatly.

[0008] This invention offers the nonaqueous rechargeable battery in which is the multiple oxide which has the layer structure of the presentation range which was made as a result of repeating research wholeheartedly that the above-mentioned technical problem should be solved, and was restricted, and was excellent in the endurance over a charge-and-discharge cycle with high capacity by using the lithium content multiple oxide which has the specific shape of particle as an active material of a positive electrode, and the keeping under an elevated temperature was excellent.

[0009]

[Means for Solving the Problem] the lithium content multiple oxide of this invention — general formula Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta) /2Mn(1-x-y-delta) /2MyO2[— however It is 0<-x<-0.05, -0.05<-x+alpha<-0.05, and 0<-y<-0.4. — It is 0.1<-delta<-0.1 (at however, the time of 0<-y<-0.2), or -0.24<-delta<-0.24 (at however, the time of 0.2<-y<-0.4). M — Mg — Ti — Cr — Fe — Co — Cu — Zn — aluminum — germanium — Sn — from — becoming — a group — from — choosing — having had — one — a sort — more than — an element —] — expressing — having — It is the multiple oxide which the primary particle condensed and formed the aggregated particle, and is characterized by for the mean particle diameter of the primary particle being 0.3-3 micrometers, and the mean particle diameter of an aggregated particle being 0.5-20 micrometers.

[0010] Moreover, the nonaqueous rechargeable battery of this invention is characterized by having the positive electrode and negative electrode which use the above—mentioned lithium content multiple oxide as an active material, and nonaqueous electrolyte.

[0011] Furthermore, the nonaqueous rechargeable battery of this invention makes it a desirable mode to mix and use the lithium content multiple oxide A and the lithium content multiple oxide B with the mean particle diameter smaller than the mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle of said multiple oxide A at least as positive active material, when the above-mentioned lithium content multiple oxide is set to A.

[0012]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, the gestalt of implementation of invention explains this invention more concretely, the lithium content multiple oxide of this invention — general formula Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta) /2Mn(1-x-y-delta) /2MyO2[— however It is 0<=x<=0.05, -0.05 <= x+alpha <=0.05, and 0<=y<=0.4 . It is 0.1<=delta<=0.1 (at however, the time of 0<=y<=0.2), or -0.24<=delta<=0.24 (at however, the time of 0.2< y<=0.4). M — Mg — Ti — Cr — Fe — Co — Cu — Zn — aluminum — germanium — Sn — from — becoming — a group — from — choosing — having had — one — a sort — more than — an element —] — expressing — having had become in the primary particle condensed and formed the aggregated particle, and is characterized by for the mean particle diameter of the primary particle being 0.3–3 micrometers, and the mean particle diameter of an aggregated particle being 5-20 micrometers.

[0013] That is, the lithium content multiple oxide of this invention is a multiple oxide of the presentation range restricted very much centering on the presentation to which nickel and Mn are contained as a configuration element at least, and the quantitative ratio of nickel and Mn is set to 1:1.

[0014] In this invention, it is based on the following reasons that only the above limited presentation range is chosen. Namely, it sets to the lithium content multiple oxide of the shape of a layer which has nickel and Mn. It is based on the presentation expressed with general

formula LiNi1 / 2Mn1 from which the quantitative ratio of nickel and Mn is set to 1:1 / 202. nickel and Mn are permuted by Li every [2 / x/], respectively, and, only in delta/2 and -delta/2, the quantitative ratio of nickel and Mn shifts from one half, respectively. the quantitative ratio of Li — alpha — width of face — having — and nickel and Mn — respectively — every [2 / y/] — Element M (however, M — Mg —) The presentation permuted by one or more sorts of elements chosen from Ti, Cr, Fe, Co, Cu, Zn, aluminum, germanium, and Sn, that is, general — Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta) /2Mn(1-x-y-delta) /2My02[— however It is 0<-x<=0.05, -0.05 (\leq x+alpha \leq 0.05, and 0<-y< \leq 0.4. It is 0.1<=delta<=0.1 (at however, the time of 0<-y<=0.2), or -0.24<=delta<=0.24 (at however, the time of 0.2< y<=0.4). M — Mg — Ti — Cr — Fe — Co — Cu — Zn — aluminum — germanium — Sn — from — becoming — a group — from — choosing — having had — one — a sort — more than — an element —] — expressing — having —a presentation — the range — setting — The crystal structure is stabilized and it is because the multiple oxide excellent in the reversibility of the charge and discharge in the potential field of the 4V neighborhood or the endurance over a charge-and-discharge cycle is obtained.

[0015] This is considered to be because for migration of Mn under crystal to be controlled in the case of the dope of Li in that the average valence of Mn in a multiple oxide takes the value near the tetravalence (about 3.3 - tetravalence), and charge and discharge, and a dedope.

[0016] Moreover, it turned out that the conductivity of a compound improves and the load characteristic at the time of high current discharge improves by y> 0 when it contains Co at least as an element M.

[0017] According to a still more detailed presentation examination, it also turned out that the stability of a compound improves [near the presentation to which the quantitative ratio of nickel, Mn, and M is set to 1:1:1, i.e., the presentation expressed with general formula LiNi1/3Mn1/3M1 / 3O2,].

[0018] True density serves as 4.55 – 4.95 g/cm3 and a big value, and the multiple oxide of this invention serves as an ingredient which has high volume energy density. Although the true density of the multiple oxide which contains Mn in the fixed range changes with the presentations a lot, structure is stabilized in the above-mentioned narrow presentation range, and since a single phase becomes is easy to be formed, it is considered to become a value near the true density of LiCoO2. Especially, the value becomes large at the time of the presentation near stoichiometry, and a three or more about 4.7 g/cm high density multiple oxide is obtained in -0.015 <= x+alpha <=0.015.

[0019] above—mentioned general formula Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta) /2Mn(1-x-y-delta) /2MyO2[— however It is 0(=x<=0.05, -0.05 <= x+alpha <=0.05, and 0(=y<=0.4. - It is 0.1<<a href="delta<=0.1">delta<=0.1">delta<=0.1">delta<=0.1">delta<=0.1">delta<=0.1">delta<=0.24 (at however, the time of 0<=y<=0.2), or -0.24<<a href="delta<=0.24">delta<=0.24 (at however, the time of 0<=y<=0.20), or -0.24<<a href="delta<=0.24">delta<=0.24 (at however, the time of 0.25 (y<=0.4), one or more sorts of elements chosen from the group which M becomes from Mg, Ti, Cr, Fe, Co, Cu, Zn, aluminum, germanium, and Sn —] — setting — It needs that the quantitative ratio of nickel and Mn is 1:1 fundamentally, and only a value with the as small gap (delta/2) from a median as -0.1<=delta<=0.1 is permitted. However, in [presentation] 0.2< y<=0.4, since the stability of the crystal structure becomes higher and a single phase becomes is easy to be formed, even if the above—mentioned gap becomes large, the target multiple oxide can be obtained. For this reason, in the above—mentioned general formula, fundamentally, with -0.1<=delta<=0.1, although the range which delta can take is narrow, it may extend the value of delta to the range of -0.24<=delta<=0.24 in [presentation] 0.2< y<=0.4.

[0020] Here, the upper limit of y was set to 0.4 because it would become easy to produce problems — an unusual appearance is formed into the multiple oxide made into the purpose, and the stability of a compound is spoiled — if the presentation of permutations of y> 0.4, i.e., the amount in Element M. increased more than 0.4.

[0021] Moreover, it is what the primary particle condensed and formed the aggregated particle as a gestalt of the multiple oxide which has the above-mentioned presentation, and the multiple oxide whose mean particle diameter of an aggregated particle the mean particle diameter of the primary particle is 0.3-3 micrometers, and is 5-20 micrometers is chosen. In what the primary particle condensed and formed the aggregated particle, this is because the reactivity and the

restoration nature of a multiple oxide in charge and discharge can be raised, by setting mean particle diameter of a primary particle to 0.3-3 micrometers, by being able to raise the reactivity in charge and discharge, being able to raise the load characteristic of a cell, and setting mean particle diameter of an aggregated particle to 5-20 micrometers, can raise the restoration nature of a multiple oxide and can high-capacity-ize an electrode.

[0022] Furthermore, as for the BET specific surface area of the above-mentioned multiple oxide, it is desirable that it is in the range of 0.3-2m2/g, the electrode when that whose BET specific surface area of this is more than 0.3m2/g having been excellent in reactivity, and forming an electrode, since what is below 2m2/g has the large consistency of the particle itself — a mixture — it is because a consistency can be enlarged.

[0023] The lithium content multiple oxide of the shape of particle mentioned above can supply the inside of an alkali water solution to the water solution which dissolved the salt of nickel and Mn or nickel and Mn, and Element M, can compound nickel and Mn or nickel and Mn, and the coprecipitation hydroxide of Element M, can calcinate this with a lithium compound, and can obtain it by grinding and sifting out mechanically the multiple oxide compounded further if needed. As for baking, it is desirable to perform oxygen, such as inside of air or oxygen gas, in the ambient atmosphere included more than 10 volume %, burning temperature is about 700 degrees C – 1100 degrees C, and, as for firing time, considering as 1 – 24 hours is common. Moreover, if preheating is performed for about 0.5 to 30 hours at temperature (about 250–850 degrees C) lower than burning temperature and it is made to perform the above-mentioned baking processing before the above-mentioned baking processing further, since homogenization of a multiple oxide is promoted, it is desirable. Here, the diameter of a primary particle of a multiple oxide can be controlled by adjusting the temperature of preheating or baking, and its processing time, and can control the diameter of an aggregated particle by extent of mechanical grinding, and sieving.

[0024] By using the lithium content multiple oxide described above as positive active material, as it is the following, a nonaqueous rechargeable battery is produced.

[0025] the positive electrode which added binders, such as polytetrafluoroethylene and polyvinylidene fluoride, was mixed with electric conduction assistants, such as a scale-like graphite and acetylene black, for example, and was obtained when the above-mentioned multiple oxide took the positive electrode — it applies to the base which serves as the operation as a charge collector, using a mixture as a Plastic solid, and what was united with the base is used. As a base, the network of metals, such as aluminum, stainless steel, titanium, and copper, a punching metal, an expanded metal, form metal, a metallic foil, etc. can be used here, for example.

[0026] In addition, although the above-mentioned lithium content multiple oxide can be independently used as positive active material, by mixing and using the above-mentioned lithium content multiple oxide and a lithium content multiple oxide with mean particle diameter smaller than this, its restoration nature of an active material can improve further, and it can raise the capacity of an electrode, as for this, the small lithium content multiple oxide of mean particle diameter enters the opening between the particles of the lithium content multiple oxide of this invention -- a positive electrode -- it is because the consistency of a mixture becomes large. [0027] When a lithium content multiple oxide with the small mean particle diameter which sets to A, is mixed and uses the lithium content multiple oxide of this invention is set to B, it is desirable to make mean particle diameter of the lithium content multiple oxide B or less [of the mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle of the lithium content multiple oxide A 1 into 3/5. When the mean particle diameter of B is larger than said value (i.e., when the difference of the mean particle diameter of A and B is small), the effectiveness mentioned above becomes small and the difference with the case where A is used independently decreases. Moreover, if the lower limit of the mean particle diameter of B is considered to be about 0.1 micrometers and becomes small from this, the effectiveness the property as an active material falls and carries out [effectiveness] mixed use will stop being able to produce it easily. In addition, the mean particle diameter of Above B means the average of the particle diameter of an aggregated particle, when a primary particle condenses the average of the particle diameter when B is a

primary particle, and forming an aggregated particle. Moreover, since it is the same as that of A, it is desirable that it is the multiple oxide with which the primary particle also condensed B and it formed the aggregated particle.

[0028] The lithium content multiple oxide B may be the same presentation as the lithium content multiple oxide A, and may be a different presentation. When a presentation differs from A, the multiple oxide expressed with general formula Li1+a+bR1-aO2 [however, one or more sorts of elements chosen from the group which it is 0<=a<=0.05 and -0.05 <=a+b<=0.05, and R becomes from Mg, Ti, Cr, Fe, Co, Cu, Zn, aluminum, germanium, and Sn] can be used preferably. Especially, when R contains Co at least, the conductivity of the electrode using the lithium content multiple oxide A which is inferior to conductivity compared with LiCoO2 can be raised.

[0029] As for the rate of the lithium content multiple oxide B, it is desirable to consider as 10 – 40 % of the weight in positive active material. When fewer than this, the difference with the case where the lithium content multiple oxide A is used independently decreases, and when [than this] more, it is for the effectiveness to decrease that there are few rates of the lithium content multiple oxide A.

[0030] As an active material of the above-mentioned positive electrode and the negative electrode made to counter, alloys of the element in which alloying with a lithium is possible, or these elements, such as lithium alloys, such as a lithium or a Li-aluminum alloy, a Li-Pb alloy, a Li-In alloy, and a Li-Ga alloy, and Si, Sn, a Mg-Si alloy, are usually mentioned. Furthermore, carbonaceous ingredients, such as a graphite besides oxide system ingredients, such as Sn oxide, Si oxide, and Li4Ti 5O12, and fibrous carbon, a lithium content compound nitride, etc. can be used. Moreover, what compound-ized two or more above-mentioned ingredients can also be used as an active material. In addition, it is produced by the same approach as the case of the above-mentioned positive electrode also about a negative electrode.

[0031] As a quantitative ratio of the active material in the above-mentioned positive electrode and a negative electrode, although it changes also with classes of negative-electrode active material, generally the property of positive active material can be well used by making it positive active material / negative-electrode active material =1.5-3.5 (mass ratio).

[0032] As nonaqueous electrolyte in the nonaqueous rechargeable battery of this invention, the polymer electrolyte, the liquefied electrolyte, i.e., the electrolytic solution, of an organic solvent system made to dissolve an electrolyte in an organic solvent, which made said electrolytic solution hold in a polymer can be used. Although especially the organic solvent contained in the electrolytic solution or a polymer electrolyte is not limited, it is desirable that chain-like ester is included from the point of a load characteristic. As such chain-like ester, organic solvents, such as carbonate of the shape of a chain represented by dimethyl carbonate, diethyl carbonate, and ethyl methyl carbonate, and ethyl acetate, pro pyrone acid methyl, are mentioned, for example. These chain-like ester may be independent, or two or more sorts may be mixed and used for it, for an improvement of a low-temperature property, it is desirable that the above-mentioned chain-like ester occupies more than 50 volume % in [all] an organic solvent, and it is especially desirable that especially chain-like ester occupies more than 65 volume % in [all] an organic solvent.

[0033] However, as an organic solvent, in order to aim at improvement in discharge capacity rather than it constitutes only from above—mentioned chain-like ester, it is desirable to mix and use ester with high (inductivity: 30 or more) inductivity for the above—mentioned chain-like ester. As an example of such ester, the annular carbonate represented by ethylene carbonate, propylene carbonate, butylene carbonate, and vinylene carbonate, gamma—butyrolactone, an ethylene glycol ape fight, etc. are mentioned, for example, and the ester of cyclic structures, such as ethylene carbonate and propylene carbonate, is especially desirable.

[0034] As for especially the ester with such a high dielectric constant, it is desirable to contain more than 20 volume % more than all 10 volume [in an organic solvent] % from the point of discharge capacity. Moreover, from the point of a load characteristic, below 40 volume % is desirable and below 30 volume % is more desirable.

[0035] Moreover, as a solvent which can be used together in addition to ester with the abovementioned high dielectric constant, 1, 2-dimethoxyethane, 1, 3-dioxolane, a tetrahydrofuran, a 2methyl-tetrahydrofuran, diethylether, etc. are mentioned, for example. In addition, an amine imide series organic solvent, ** sulfur or a fluorine-containing organic solvent, etc. can be used. [0036] As an electrolyte dissolved in an organic solvent, for example LiClO4, LiPF6, LiBF4, LiAsF6, LiSbF6, LiCF3SO3, LiCAF9SO3, LiCF3CO2, Li2C2F4(SO3) 2, LiN (CF3SO2)2 and LiC (CF3SO2)3, LiCnF2n+1SO3 (n>=2) etc. — independent — or two or more sorts are mixed and it is used. LiPF6, LiC4F9SO3, etc. from which a good charge-and-discharge property is acquired especially are used preferably. Although especially the concentration of the electrolyte in the electrolytic solution is not limited, 0.3 – 1.7 mol/dm3, especially its about three 0.4 – 1.5 mol/dm are desirable.

[0037] Moreover, in order to raise the safety and storage property of a cell, nonaqueous electrolyte may be made to contain an aromatic compound. As an aromatic compound, the benzens which has alkyl groups, such as cyclohexylbenzene and t-butylbenzene, a biphenyl, or fluorobenzenes are used preferably.

[0038] What reinforcement comes out enough and can moreover hold many electrolytic solutions as a separator is good, from such a viewpoint, it is 5–50 micrometers in thickness, and microporous films, nonwoven fabrics, etc. made from polyolefine, such as a copolymer of the product made from polypropylene, the product made from polyethylene, a propylene, and ethylene, are used preferably. Since especially the cell using the multiple oxide positive electrode of this invention although the property of a cell tended to deteriorate in a charge-and-discharge cycle, elevated-temperature storage, etc. and safety also fell when 5–20 micrometers and a thin separator were used is excellent in stability and safety, even if it uses such a thin separator, it can be stabilized, and can operate a cell.

[0039]

[Example] The example of this invention is explained below. However, this invention is not limited only to those examples. In addition, in the following examples, the particle diameter of a primary particle is measured based on a 10,000 times as many scanning electron microscope photograph as this, and the particle diameter of an aggregated particle is MICROTRAC by the micro truck company. It measured with the laser diffraction type particle-size-distribution measuring method using HRA (Model:9320-X100). Moreover, the BET specific surface area was measured using the Micromeritics BET adsorption method type specific-surface-area meter ASAP2000. [0040] (Example 1) The coprecipitation hydroxide which contains Mn by nickel and1:1 was compounded, adding and strong-stirring a sodium-hydroxide water solution and aqueous ammonia in the water solution which contains a nickel sulfate and a manganese sulfate by the mole ratio 1:1. After having carried out weighing capacity of the 0.198-mol LiOH-H2O to the 0.2 mols of the above-mentioned coprecipitation hydroxides, having mixed with them, after drying this, distributing the mixture by ethanol and making it the shape of a slurry, the mixture which was mixed for 40 minutes using the planet ball mill, was further dried at the room temperature and was mixed by homogeneity was adjusted. Subsequently, by putting this mixture into the crucible made from an alumina, heating to 700 degrees C in the air air current of the flow rate for 1dm3/, and holding at that temperature for 2 hours, by performing preheating, carrying out a temperature up to 900 more degrees C, and calcinating for 12 hours, the mixture was made to react and it considered as the multiple oxide. By grinding the compound multiple oxide and sifting out further, it was expressed with general formula LiNi0.5Mn 0.5O2, and the lithium content multiple oxide of mean-particle-diameter; 1 micrometer of a primary particle, mean-particlediameter:10micrometer of an aggregated particle, and BET specific surface area:0.9m2/g was obtained.

[0041] (Example 2) Except having made burning temperature into 1000 degrees C, and having made firing time into 20 hours, like the example 1, it was expressed with general formula LiNi0.5Mn 0.502, and the lithium content multiple oxide of mean-particle-diameter:3micrometer of a primary particle, mean-particle-diameter:10micrometer of an aggregated particle, and BET specific surface area:0.7m2/g was obtained.

[0042] (Examples 3-6 and examples 1-3 of a comparison) The lithium content multiple oxide shown in Table 1 was obtained by changing burning temperature and firing time, compounding a multiple oxide, grinding the compound multiple oxide, and sifting out further. In addition, in the

example 5, the hydroxide which contains Co at a rate of nickel, Mn, and1:1:1 was used by the example 6 using the hydroxide which contains Co at a rate of nickel, Mn, and5:5:2 as a coprecipitation hydroxide.

[0043] (Example 4 of a comparison) With the conventional method, LiCoO2 of mean-particle-diameter:0.7micrometer of a primary particle, mean-particle-diameter:7micrometer of an aggregated particle, and BET specific surface area:0.6m2/g was obtained.

[0044] (Example 5 of a comparison) With the conventional method, LiMn 2O4 of mean-particle-diameter:1micrometer of a primary particle, mean-particle-diameter:12micrometer of an aggregated particle, and BET specific surface area:1.8m2/g was obtained.

[Table 1]

Liable	J				
		平均粒子径 (μm)		比表面積	合剂密度
	組成	一次粒子	二次粒子	(m²/g)	(g/cm ³)
実施例1	LiNi o. sMno. sO2	1	10	0. 9	3. 0
実施例2	LiNio, sMno, sO2	3	10	0. 7	3. 0
実施例3	LiNio, sMno, sO2	0.8	7	1. 3	3. 0
実施例4	LiNio, 5Mno, 5O2	0. 7	6	1. 7	2. 9
実施例5	LiNio, 42Mno, 42Coo, 18	ı	8	0. 6	з. о
実施例 8	LiNi o. 33Mn o. 33Coo. 55	1	10	0. 9	3. 0
比較例1	LiNio, sMno, sO,	1	3	0. 9	2. 5
比較例2	LiNio. sMno. sO.	0. 7	4	2, 1	2. 6
比較例3	LiNio, sMno, sO2	0. 2	7	2. 8	2. 5
比較例4	LiCoO ₂	0. 7	7	0. 6	3. 2
比較例 5	LiMn ₂ O ₄	1	1 2	1. 8	2. 6

[0046] The nonaqueous rechargeable battery was produced using the lithium content multiple oxide of the above-mentioned examples 1–6 and the examples 1–5 of a comparison as positive active material. 94 weight sections and the carbon black 3 weight section were blended the lithium content multiple oxide dryly, in addition, the N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone was added further, it fully mixed, and the paste was prepared so that polyvinylidene fluoride might serve as 3 weight sections in the binder solution which dissolved polyvinylidene fluoride in this at the N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone. This coating was applied to both sides of aluminium foil with a thickness of 20 micrometers at homogeneity, after drying, pressing was carried out with the roller press machine, it judged in 280mmx38mm magnitude, and the band-like positive electrode whose thickness is about 170 micrometers was produced. Moreover, the weight of the binder layer of each produced positive electrode was measured, and the consistency of the mixture calculated from this value was collectively shown in Table 1.

[0047] So that more clearly than Table 1 the lithium content multiple oxide of examples 1-6 General formula Li1+x+alphanickel(1-x-y+delta)/2Mn(1-x-y-delta)/2My02[it corrects. It is 0.0<xx<=0.05, -0.05 <= x+alpha <=0.05, and 0<=y<=0.4. - It is 0.1<=delta<=0.1 (at however, the time of 0<y<=0.2), or -0.24<=delta<=0.24 (at however, the time of 0.2< y<=0.4). M -- Mg -- Ti -- Cr -- Fe -- Co -- Cu -- Zn -- aluminum -- germanium -- Sn -- from -- becoming -- a group -- from -- choosing -- having had -- one -- a sort -- more than -- an element --] -- expressing -- having -- a presentation -- the range -- it is -- By being within the limits which is 0.3-3 micrometers whose mean particle diameter of a primary particle and an aggregated particle it is the multiple oxide which the primary particle condensed and formed the aggregated particle, and is the generic claims of this invention, respectively, and 5-20 micrometers the mixture when

constituting a positive electrode -- the consistency was able to turn into a consistency almost comparable as LiCoO2 of the example 4 of a comparison currently conventionally used widely, and was able to raise restoration nature. On the other hand, even if it had the above-mentioned presentation, the lithium content multiple oxide of the examples 1-3 of a comparison with which either of the mean particle diameter of a primary particle and an aggregated particle deviated from the generic claim of this invention had the low consistency of a mixture, and only restoration nature comparable as LiMn 204 of the example 5 of a comparison was obtained. [0048] Next, the paste which mixed the natural-graphite 92 weight section, the low crystallinity carbon 3 weight section, and the polyvinylidene fluoride 5 weight section was applied to both sides of copper foil with a thickness of 10 micrometers at homogeneity, after drying, pressing was carried out with the roller press machine, it judged in 310mmx41mm magnitude, and the band-like negative electrode whose thickness is about 165 micrometers was produced. [0049] After having arranged the separator which consists of a microporous polyethylene film with a thickness of 20 micrometers between the above-mentioned band-like positive electrode and a band-like negative electrode, winding around it spirally and considering as an electrode object between, it inserted into the closed-end cylinder-like cell case with an outer diameter [of 14mm], and a height of 51.5mm, and welding of a positive-electrode lead object and a negativeelectrode lead object was performed. Then, the nonaqueous electrolyte which comes to carry out the 1.2 mol/l dissolution of LiPF6 was poured into the mixed solvent of the volume ratio 1:2 of ethylene carbonate and ethyl methyl carbonate three times 1.7cm into the cell case. The mass ratio (positive active material / negative-electrode active material) of the active material of the above-mentioned positive electrode and a negative electrode was set to 1.9 with the electrode object which used the lithium content multiple oxide of an example 1. [0050] Opening of the above-mentioned cell case was obturated according to the conventional method, the nonaqueous rechargeable battery of a cartridge was produced, and discharge capacity was measured. Under the 20-degree C environment, after charging to 4.2V by 600mA constant current, it charged with the constant voltage control, and it charged so that the sum total time amount of charge might turn into 2.5 hours, and the discharge capacity when discharging to 3.0V by 120mA constant current was measured. This result was shown in Table 2.

[0051] [Table 2]

活物質	放電容量 (mAh)
実施例1	602
実施例2	601
実施例3	602
夹施例4	586
実施例5	604
実施例 6	604
比較例1	483
比較例2	493
比較例3	422
比較例4	620
比較例5	510

[0052] the cell using the lithium content multiple oxide of examples 1-6 — a positive electrode — a big discharge capacity was shown like the cell of the example 4 of a comparison using LiCoO2 according to the pack density of a mixture being high. On the other hand, since the cell using the lithium content multiple oxide of the examples 1-3 of a comparison had the low

restoration nature of an active material, only a low discharge capacity was obtained like the cell of the example 5 of a comparison using LiMn 2O4.

[0053] Moreover, about the cell using the lithium content multiple oxide of an example 1, an example 6, the example 4 of a comparison, and the example 5 of a comparison, the charge-anddischarge cycle by discharge to 3.0V was performed under the temperature of 20 degrees C by charge on the same conditions as the above, and 600mA constant current, and the cycle property of a room temperature was evaluated by the rate [capacity maintenance (%)] of the discharge capacity after 100 cycles. Furthermore, in order to investigate the cycle property in an elevated temperature, the above-mentioned cycle trial was performed also under the temperature of 60 degrees C, and the cycle property of the elevated temperature in [capacity maintenance (%)] comparatively of the discharge capacity after 20 cycles was evaluated. [0054] Furthermore, it is the following, and the storage property was made and evaluated. After performing a charge-and-discharge cycle 5 times on the same charge-and-discharge conditions as measurement of the above-mentioned cycle property, the cell was charged on the abovementioned charge conditions, and it stored for 20 days under the temperature of 60 degrees C. the capacity which discharges on the above-mentioned conditions after this storage, and remains after the storage to the capacity before storage -- [capacity maintenance (%)] was measured comparatively, the capacity after storage of as opposed to [to after measurement] the capacity before 1 cycle deed and storage for a charge-and-discharge cycle -- [capacity recovery (%)] was measured comparatively. The above-mentioned capacity maintenance and capacity recovery were comparatively alike, and the storage property in an elevated temperature was evaluated. These results were shown in Table 3. [0055]

[Table 3]

活物質	サイクル特性/容量維持 (%)		貯蔵特性		
	20℃	60℃	容量維持 (%)	容量回復(%)	
実施例1	9 3	9.8	8.8	9 9	
実施例 6	9 5	98	8 7	9 9	
比較例4	9 0	94	8.0	9 4	
比較例5	7 5	9 2	7 2	8 2	

[0056] The cell which was excellent in the cycle property and the storage property by using the lithium content multiple oxide of an example 1 and an example 6 for a positive electrode has been constituted so that more clearly than Table 3, but when LiCoO2 and LiMn 2O4 were used, the cycle property and the storage property were inferior to the lithium content multiple oxide of this invention. The following experiments were conducted in order to investigate this cause. The positive electrode using the lithium content multiple oxide of an example 1, the example 4 of a comparison, and the example 5 of a comparison was cut off in diameter of 15mm in argon atmosphere, and it was immersed in the 5ml electrolytic solution, and held for five days at 60 degrees C. In this way, ICP spectral analysis was performed to the obtained electrolytic solution, and the quantum of the concentration of Mn and Co which were eluted in the electrolytic solution was carried out. The value which converted the elution volume into per 1g of multiple oxides was shown in Table 4.

[0057] [Table 4]

LIADIE 4]		
	複合酸化物 1 g	あたりの溶出量(μg)
	Mn	Со
実施例1	4. 9	
比較例4		18.7
比較例 5	3 5. 7	_

[0058] Even when the lithium content multiple oxide of an example 1 had the small elution volume of Mn a single figure and was stored at an elevated temperature rather than LiMn 2O4 of the example 5 of a comparison, it turned out that the dissolution of Mn to the electrolytic solution is fully controlled. There are few Mn elution volumes of an example 1 than Co elution volume of LiCoO2 of the example 4 of a comparison, and it turns out that it is the ingredient excellent in the endurance in an elevated temperature. Although it is known that degradation of capacity is remarkable when the dissolution of Mn took place and the charge-and-discharge cycle was carried out at the elevated temperature, or when it stores at an elevated temperature if LiMn 2O4 becomes an elevated temperature, the result of Table 4 has supported it. On the other hand, although LiCoO2 is the ingredient which such a problem cannot produce easily, be [the lithium content multiple oxide of this invention / the ingredient which was further superior to this LiCoO2] is clear.

[0059] (Example 7) It ground and the lithium content multiple oxide compounded in the example 1 was sifted out until the average value of the diameter of an aggregated particle was set to 5 micrometers, and the lithium content multiple oxide B was obtained. Subsequently, it was expressed with general formula LiNi0.5Mn 0.5O2, the lithium content multiple oxide A of an example 1 and the above-mentioned lithium content multiple oxide B which are mean-particle-diameter: micrometer of a primary particle, mean-particle-diameter:10micrometer of a primary particle, mean-particle-diameter:10micrometer of a primary particle, mean-particle-diameter:10micrometer of an instance of 0.40, and the same nonaqueous rechargeable battery as the above was produced by using this as positive active material.

[0060] (Example 8) The nonaqueous rechargeable battery was produced like the example 7 except having set mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle of the lithium content multiple oxide B to 3 micrometers.

[0061] (Example 9) The nonaqueous rechargeable battery was produced like the example 8 except having set the weight ratio of the lithium content multiple oxide A and the lithium content multiple oxide B to 80:20.

[0062] (Example 10) The nonaqueous rechargeable battery was produced like the example 8 except having set the weight ratio of the lithium content multiple oxide A and the lithium content multiple oxide B to 95:5.

[0063] (Example 11) The nonaqueous rechargeable battery was produced like the example 7 except having set mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle of the lithium content multiple oxide B to 7 micrometers.

[0064] the above-mentioned examples 7-11 -- the above-mentioned -- the same -- carrying out -- the positive electrode before a cell assembly -- the consistency of a mixture and discharge capacity of a nonaqueous rechargeable battery were measured. The result was combined with the result of an example 1, and was shown in Table 5. the nonaqueous rechargeable battery of the examples 7-9 which were mixed with the lithium content multiple oxide B which has 3/5 or less mean particle diameter of the mean particle diameter of the aggregated particle, and used the lithium content multiple oxide A of this invention so that more clearly than this -- a positive electrode -- the consistency of a mixture was able to become large, the restoration nature of an active material was able to improve, and the discharge capacity of a cell was able to be made to increase a positive electrode comparable as the example 1 which used the lithium content multiple oxide A independently in the nonaqueous rechargeable battery of the example 11 which changes neither the example 10 with few the mixed rate, nor the mean particle diameter of the lithium content multiple oxide B so much to the lithium content multiple oxide A although the mean particle diameter of the lithium content multiple oxide B is small enough on the other hand -- a mixture -- becoming a consistency and discharge capacity, the effectiveness by mixing of an active material did not become clear. [0065]

[Table 5]

	複合酸化物Bの 平均粒子径 (μm)	Bの平均粒 子径/Aの 平均粒子径	Bの割合 (重量%)	正極合剤密 度 (g/cm³)	放電容量(mAh)
実施例1			0	3. 0	602
実施例7	5	5/10	40	3. 1	620
実施例8	3	3/10	40	3. 2	633
実施例9	3	3/10	20	3. 2	635
実施例10	3	3/10	5	3. 0	605
実施例11	7	7/10	40	3. 0	602

[0066]

[Effect of the Invention] As explained above, by this invention, restoration nature is high and the nonaqueous rechargeable battery excellent in cycle endurance and the keeping under an elevated temperature can be offered by high capacity by using the lithium content multiple oxide excellent in the cycle endurance under an elevated temperature, or the stability at the time of elevated—temperature storage. Furthermore, since the lithium multiple oxide used by this invention is using Mn and nickel abundant in resource, and cheap as main configuration elements compared with Co, it also fits mass production method and can contribute also to the cost reduction of a cell.

[Translation done.]

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(54) 【発明の名称】 リチウム含有複合酸化物およびそれを用いた非水二次電池

(57)【要約】

【課題】 層状の結晶構造が安定化され、充填性が高 く、高温下でのサイクル耐久性や高温貯蔵時の安定性に 優れたリチウム含有複合酸化物を用いることにより、高 容量で、サイクル耐久性および高温下での貯蔵性に優れ た非水二次電池を実現する。

【解決手段】 一般式Li,+*+*Ni

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 一般式Li1+x+aNi

 $\{1-x-y+\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{1-x-y-\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{1-x-y-\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{0-x-y-\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{0-x-\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{0-x-y-\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{0-x-y-\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{0-x-y-\delta\}/2$ Mn $\{0-x-\delta\}/2$ M

【請求項2】 前記一般式において、y>0であり、M が少なくともCoを含む1種以上の元素であることを特徴とする請求項1に記載のリチウム含有複合酸化物。

【請求項3】 BET比表面積が0.3~2m²/gであることを特徴とする請求項1または2に記載のリチウム会有複合動化物。

【請求項4】 リチウム含有複合酸化物を活物質とする正極および負極と非水電解質を備えた非水二次電池であって、上記複合酸化物が、一般式Li $_1+_x+_a$ Ni ($_1-_x-_y+_\delta$) $_2$ М $_1$ ($_1-_x-_y-_\delta$) $_2$ M $_2$ ($_2$ K $_3$ K $_3$ K $_3$ K $_4$ K $_4$

【請求項5】 前記一般式において、y>0であり、M が少なくともCoを含む1種以上の元素であることを特徴とする請求項4に記載の非水二次電池。

【請求項6】 リチウム含有複合酸化物のBET比表面 積が0.3~2m²/gであることを特徴とする請求項 4または5に記載の非水二次電池。

【請求項了】 リチウム会有複合酸化物を活物質とする 正極および負極と非水電解質を備えた非水二次電池であ って、上記複合酸化物として、少なくとも、一般式し i 1+x+a N i (1-x-y+s)/2 M n

 からなる群から選択された1種以上の元素]で表され、一次粒子が凝集して二次粒子を形成した複合酸化物であり、その二次粒子の平均粒子径が5~20μmであるり チウム含有複合酸化物 Aの二次粒子の平均粒子径よりも小さい平均粒子径を有するリチウム含有複合酸化物 Bとを混合して用いたことを特徴とすままた"次電池

【請求項8】 リチウム含有複合酸化物Bの割合が、正 極活物質全体の10~40重量%であることを特徴とす る請求項7に記載の非水二次電池。

【請求項9】 リチウム会有複合酸化物Bの平均粒子径 が、リチウム会有複合酸化物Aの二次粒子の平均粒子径 の3/5以下であることを特徴とする請求項7または8 に記載の非木二次電池。

【請求項10】 リチウム含有複合酸化物Bが、一次粒子が蘇集して二次粒子を形成した複合酸化物であることを特徴とする請求項7~9のいずれかに記載の非水二次電池。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、非水二次電池の正 極活物質などに利用可能なリチウム含有複合酸化物と、 それを正極に用いることにより、高温でのサイクル特性 や保存特性を改善した非水二次電池に関する。 【0002】

【従来の技術】近年、携帯電話やノート型パソコンなど のボータブル電子機器の発達や、電気自動車の実用化な どに伴い、小型軽量でかつ高容量の二次電池が必要とさ れるようになってきた。現在、この要求に応える高容量 二次電池としては、正極材料としてLiCoO₂を用 い、負極活物質として炭素系材料を用いた非水二次電池 が商品化されている。上記非水二次電池はエネルギー密 度が高く、小型、軽量化が図れることから、ボータブル 電子機器の電源として注目されている。この非水二次電 池の正極材料として使用されているLiCoO。は、製 造が容易でありかつ取り扱いが容易なことから、好適な 活物質として多用されている。しかしながら、LiCo O。は希少金属であるCoを原料として製造されるため に、今後資源不足が深刻化すると予想される。さらに、 Coは高価であり、価格変動も大きいため、安価で供給 の安定している正極材料の開発が望まれている。

【0003】上記理由に鑑み、構成元素の価格が安価

[0004]

【特許文献1】特開平8-37007号公報(段落番号0027-0029)

【特許文献2】特開平11-25957号公報 (段落番号0003-0008)

【特許文献3】特開2000-223122号公報(段 落番号0002-0009)

[0005]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】ところが、本発明者ら が上記しiMnO₂のMnの一部をNiやCoなどで置 境した複合動化物について詳細な検討を行った結果、化 合物の組成、特に、Liとその他金属元素との量比や、 置換元素の種類や量比、および複合酸化物が形成される まっても成過程などにより、その構造や特性などの物性 が顕著に変化することをつきとめた。

【0006】特に、Niによる置換を行った場合は、MnとNiとの量比、およびこれら元素とそれ以外の置換元素との量比により、合成される複合酸化物の物性が大く変化し、MnとNiとの量比をはほ1:1とし、MnおよびNiとそれ以外の置換元素との量比を一定範囲としなければ均質で特性の優れた化合物が得られないこと、Mnおよびその他置換元素としiとの量比により複合酸化物の真密度が大きく変動することなどが明らかとかった

【0007】さらに、上記リチウム含有複合酸化物の粒子形態によって、電池の特性が大きく影響されることもわかった。

【008】本発明は、上記課題を解決すべく就意研究 を重ねた結果なされたものであり、限られた相成範囲の 個状構造を有する複合酸化物で、かつ、特定の粒子形態 を有するリチウム含有複合酸化物を正極の活物質として 用いることにより、高容量で充放電サイクルに対する耐 久性に優れ、高温下での貯蔵性が優れた非水二次電池を 継惟するものである。

[0009]

【課題を解決するための手段】本売明のリチウム含有複合酸化物は、一般式し $_{1+x+a}$ N $_{1}$ ($_{1-x-y+a}$) $_{2}$ M $_{1}$ ($_{1-x-y+a}$) $_{2}$ M $_{2}$ C $_{3}$ にし、 $_{3}$ S $_{2}$ S $_{3}$ C $_{3}$

0.24 (ただし0.2<ッ≤0.4のとき)であって、MはMg、Ti、Cr、Fe、Co、Cu、Zn、Al、Ge、Snからなる群から選択された1種以上の元素]で表され、一次粒子が凝集して二次粒子を形成した複合酸化物であり、その一次粒子の平均粒子径が0.3~3μmであり、二次粒子の平均粒子径が5~20μmであることを特徴とする。

【0010】また本発明の非水二次電池は、上記リチウム含有複合酸化物を活物質とする正極および負極と非水電解質を備えたことを特徴とする。

【0011】さらに本発明の非水二次電池は、上記リチウム含有複合酸化物をAとしたときに、正極活物質として、少なくとも、リチウム含有複合酸化物Aと、その平均粒子径が前記複合酸化物Aの二次粒子の平均粒子径よりも小さいリチウム含有複合酸化物Bとを混合して用いることを好ましい態様とするものである。

[0012]

【発明の実施の形態】以下、発明の実施の形態により、 本発明をより具体的に説明する。本発明のリチウム含有 複合酸化物は、一般式 Li_{1+×+} Ni

 $(1-x-y+\delta)/2$ Mn $(1-x-y-\delta)/2$ Mn $(1-x-y-\delta)/2$ Mn $(1-x-y-\delta)/2$ Mn $(0-x-\delta)/2$ Mn $(0-x-\delta)/2$

【0013】すなわち、本発明のリチウム含有複合酸化物は、少なくともNiとMnを構成元素として含有し、かつ、NiとMnの最比が1:1となる組成を中心とした、ごく限られた組成範囲の複合酸化物である。

【0014】本発明において、上記のような限られた組成範囲のみが選択されるのは以下の理由による。すなわち、NiおよびMnを有する層状のリチウム含有複合酸化物においては、NiとMnの最比が1:1となる一般式しiNi_{1/2}Mn_{1/2}O₂で表される組成を基本として、NiおよびMnがそれぞれx/2ずつLiで置換され、NiとMnの最比が1/2からそれぞれ $\delta/2$ および $-\delta/2$ だけずれ、Liの最比が α だけ幅を有し、かつ、NiおよびMnが、それぞれy/2ずつ元素M(ただしMはMg、Ti、Cr、Fe、Co、Cu、Zn、Al、Ge、Snより選択される1種以上の元素)で置換された組成、すなわち、一般Li $1+x+\alpha$ Ni $(1-x-x+x+\delta)/2$ Mn

 $(1-x-y-\delta)/2$ M_y O_2 [ただし、 $0 \le x \le 0$. 05、-0. $05 \le x + \alpha \le 0$. 05、 $0 \le y \le 0$

0.4であり、-0.1≤δ≤0.1(ただし0≤y≤0.2のとき)または-0.24≤δ≤0.24(ただし0.2<y≤0.4のとき)であって、MはMg、T、Cr、Fe、Co、Cu、Zn、A1、Ge、Snからなる群から選択された1種以上の元素]で表される組成範囲とおいて、その結晶構造が安定化され、4V付近の電位領域での充放電の可逆性や充放電サイクルに対る耐久性に優れた複合酸化物が得られることによる。【0015】これは、複合酸化物中のMnの平均価数が4価近傍の値(およそ3、3~4価)をとること、充放電での上iのドープおよび戦ドープの際に、結晶中のMnの移動が抑制されることととどによると思われる。

【0016】また、y>0で、元素Mとして少なくとも Coを含有する場合は、化合物の導電性が向上し、大電 流放電時の負荷特性が向上することがわかった。

【00.17】さらに詳細な組成検討によれば、Ni、M n およびMの量比が1:1:1となる組成、すなわち一般式 $LiNi_{1/2}$ $Mn_{1/2}$ $M_{1/2}$ O_2 で表される 組成の近傍において、化合物の安定性が向上することも わかった。

【〇〇18】本発明の複合酸化物は、真密度が4.55 ~4.95 g/cm³と大きな値となり、高い体積エネ・ルギー密度を有する材料となる。Mnを一定範囲で含む 複合酸化物の真密度は、その組成により大きく変化する が、上記の狭い組成範囲において構造が安定化され、単一相が形成されやすくなるため、LiCoO₂の真密度 に近い値となるものと考えられる、特に、化学量論比に 近い組成のときにその値は大きくなり、一〇.015≦ ×+α≤○.015において、およそ4.7 g/cm³ 以上の高密度複合酸化物が得られる。

【0019】上記一般式Li,+v+ @ Ni

 $(1 - x - y + \delta) / 2 Mn (1 - x - y - \delta) / 2 M$, O₂ [ただし、0≤x≤0.05、-0.05≤x+ $\alpha \leq 0.05$, $0 \leq y \leq 0.4$ $\delta 0$, $-0.1 \leq \delta \leq$ 1 (ただし0≤y≤0, 2のとき)または-0, 2 $4 \le \delta \le 0$, 24 (ただし0, 2<y≤0, 4のとき) であって、MはMg、Ti、Cr、Fe、Co、Cu、 Zn、Al、Ge、Snからなる群から選択された1種 以上の元素]において、NiとMnの量比は基本的には 1:1であることを必要とし、中央値からのずれ(δ / 2) は、 $-0.1 \le \delta \le 0.1$ と小さい値しか許容され ない。ただし、0.2<y≤0.4の組成範囲では、結 晶構造の安定性がより高くなり、単一相が形成されやす くなるため、上記ずれが大きくなっても目的とする複合 酸化物を得ることができる。このため、上記一般式にお いて、 δ のとり得る範囲は、基本的には $-0.1 \le \delta \le$ 0.1と狭いのであるが、0.2<y≤0.4の組成範</p> 囲では、 δ の値を-0. $24 \le \delta \le 0$. 24の範囲まで 拡張してもよい。

【0020】ここで、yの上限値を0.4としたのは、

y>0.4の組成、すなわち元素Mでの置換量が0.4 より多くなると、目的とする複合酸化物中に異相が形成 され、化合物の安定性が損なわれるなどの問題を生じや すくなるからである。 【0021】また、上記組成を有する複合酸化物の形態

として、一次粒子が凝集して二次粒子を形成したもので、その一次粒子の平均粒子径が0.3~3μmであり、二次粒子の平均粒子径が5~20μmである複合散化物が避状される。これは、一次粒子が凝集して二次粒子を形成したものにおいて、充放電における反応性や複合酸化物の充填性を高めることができるからであり、一

子を形成したものにおいて、充放電における反応性や複合酸化物の充填性を高めることができるからであり、一次粒子の平均粒子径を0.3~3μmとすることにより、充放電における反応性を高めて電池の負荷特性を向上させることができ、二次粒子の平均粒子径を5~20μmとすることにより、複合酸化物の充填性を高めて電極を高容量化することができる。

【0022】さらに、上記複合酸化物のBET比表面積は、0.3~2m²/gの範囲にあることが望ましい。これは、BET比表面積が0.3m²/g以上であるものは反応性に侵れており、2m²/g以下であるものはを自体の密度が大きいため、電極を形成したときの電極合剤密度を大きくすることができるからである。

【0023】上述した粒子形態のリチウム含有複合酸化 物は、例えば、NiおよびMn、またはNi、Mnおよ び元素Mの塩を溶解した水溶液にアルカリ水溶液中を投 入し、NiおよびMnまたはNi、Mnおよび元素Mの 共沈水酸化物を合成し、これをリチウム化合物とともに 焼成し、さらに必要に応じて合成された複合酸化物を機 械的に粉砕およびふるい分けすることにより得ることが できる。焼成は、空気中あるいは酸素ガス中など酸素を 10体積%以上含む雰囲気中で行うことが望ましく、焼 成温度はおよそ700℃~1100℃で、焼成時間は1 ~24時間とするのが一般的である。また、上記焼成処 理の前に、焼成温度よりも低い温度(およそ250~8 50℃) で0.5~30時間程度予備加熱を行い、さら に上記焼成処理を行うようにすれば、複合酸化物の均質 化が促進されるので好ましい。ここで、複合酸化物の一 次粒子径は、予備加熱あるいは焼成の温度およびその処 理時間を調整することにより制御することができ、一次 粒子径は、機械的な粉砕の程度およびふるい分けにより 制御することができる。

【0024】以上述べたリチウム含有複合酸化物を正極活物質として用いることにより、例えば以下のようにして非水二次電池が作製される。

【0025】正極は、上記複合酸化物に、要すれば、例 えば鱗片状黒鉛、アセチレンブラックなどのような導電 助剤と、たとえばポリテトラフルオロエチレン、ポリフ ッ化ビニリデンなどのバインダーを加えて混合し、得ら れた正極合剤を成形体として用いるか、あるいは集電体 としての作用を兼ねる基体に塗布し、基体と一体化した ものが用いられる。ここで基体としては、例えば、アル ミニウム、ステンレス鋼 チタン、鋼などの金属の鋼、 パンチングメタル、エキスパンドメタル、フォームメタ ル、金属箔などを用いることができる。

【0026】なお、上記リチウム含有複合酸化物は、単独で正極活物質として用いることができるが、上記リチウム含有複合酸化物と、これよりも平均粒子径の小さいリチウム含有複合酸化物とを混合して用いることにより、活物質の充填性が一層向上し、電極の容量を高めることができる。これは、平均粒子径の小さいリチウム含有複合酸化物が、本発明のリチウム含有複合酸化物が本発明のりまり、正極合剤の密度が大きくなるからである。

【0027】本発明のリチウム含有複合酸化物をAと し、混合して用いる平均粒子径の小さいリチウム含有複 合酸化物をBとした場合、リチウム含有複合酸化物Bの 平均粒子径を、リチウム含有複合酸化物Aの二次粒子の 平均粒子径の3/5以下とすることが望ましい。Bの平 均粒子径が前記値より大きい場合、すなわちAとBの平 均粒子径の差が小さい場合は、前述した効果が小さくな り、Aを単独で使用する場合との違いが少なくなる。ま た、Bの平均粒子径の下限値は、O.1 μm程度と考え られ、これより小さくなると、活物質としての特性が低 下し、混合使用する効果が生じにくくなる。なお、上記 Bの平均粒子径とは、Bが一次粒子の場合はその粒子径 の平均を、一次粒子が凝集して二次粒子を形成したもの である場合は二次粒子の粒子径の平均を意味する。ま た. Aと同様の理由から、Bも一次粒子が凝集して二次 粒子を形成した複合酸化物であることが望ましい。

【〇〇29】リチウム含有複合酸化物Bの割合は、正極 活物質中で10~40重量%とすることが望ましい。こ れより少ない場合は、リチウム含有複合酸化物Aを単独 で使用する場合との違いが少なくなり、これより多い場 合は、リチウム含有複合酸化物Aの割合が少なくって、 その効果が感やするためである。

【0030】上記正極と対向させる負極の活物質として は、通常は、リチウムまだはしiーAl合金、LiーP b会。LiーIn合金、Li一Ga合金などのリチウ ム合金や、Si、Sn、Mg-Si合金など、リチウム との合金化が可能な元素あるいはそれら元素の合金が挙げられる。さらに、S n酸化物、S i酸化物、L i q T i 5 0 1 2 などの酸化物系材料のほか、黒鉛や繊維状炭素などの炭素質材料、リチウム含有複合壁化物などを用いることができる。また、上記の複数の材料を複合化したものを活物質とすることもできる。なお、負極についても、上記正極の場合と同様の方法により作製される。【0031】上記正極と負極における活物質の種比としては、負極活物質の種類によっても異なるが、一般的には、正極活物質の負極活物質=1.5~3.5(質量比することにより、正極活物質の特性をうまく利用することができる。

【0032】本発明の非水二次電池における非水電解管 としては、有機溶媒に電解質を溶解させた有機溶媒系の 液状電解質すなわち電解液や 前記電解液をボリマー中 に保持させたボリマー電解質などを用いることができ る。その電解液あるいはポリマー電解質に含まれる有機 溶媒は特に限定されるものではないが、負荷特性の点か らは鎖状エステルを含んでいることが好ましい。そのよ うな鎖状エステルとしては、たとえば、ジメチルカーボ ネート、ジエチルカーボネート、エチルメチルカーボネ ートに代表される鎖状のカーボネートや、酢酸エチル、 プロピロン酸メチルなどの有機溶媒が挙げられる。これ らの鎖状エステルは、単独でもあるいは2種以上を混合 して用いてもよく、特に、低温特性の改善のためには、 上記鎖状エステルが全有機溶媒中の50体積%以上を占 めることが好ましく、特に鎖状エステルが全有機溶媒中 の65体積%以上を占めることが好ましい。

[0033] ただし、有機溶媒としては、上記鏡状エステルのみで構成するよりも、放電容量の向上をはかるために、上記鏡状エステルに誘導率の高い(誘導率:30以上)エステルを混合して用いることが好ましい。このようなエステルの具体例としては、たとえば、エチレンカーボネート、ブロビレンカーボネート、ブラレンカーボネート、ビニレンカーボネートに代表される環状のカーボネートや、ァーブチロラクトン、エチレングリコールサルファイトなどが挙げられ、特にエチレンカーボネート、プロビレンカーボネートなどの環状構造のエステルが好ましい。

【0034】そのような誘電率の高いエステルは、放電容量の点から、全有機溶媒中10体積%以上、特に20体積%以上含有されることが好ましい。また、負荷特性の点からは、40体積%以下が好ましく、30体積%以下がより好ましい。

【0035】また、上記誘電率の高いエステル以外に併用可能な溶媒としては、たとえば、1、2-ジメトキシエタン、1、3-ジオキソラン、テトラヒドロフラン、2-メチルーテトラヒドロフラン、ジエチルエーテルなどが挙げられる。そのほか、アミンイミド系有機溶媒や、含イオウまたは含フッ業系有機溶媒なども用いるこ

とができる。

【0037】また、電池の安全性や貯蔵特性を向上させるために、非水電解液に芳香族化合物を含有させてもよい。芳香族化合物としては、シクロヘキシルベンゼンや
tープチルベンゼンなどのアルキル基を有するベンゼン
類、ピフェニル、あるいはフルオロベンゼン類が好ましく用いられる。

【0038】セパレータとしては、強度が充分でしかも電解液を多く保持できるものがよく、そのような観点から、5~50μmの厚さで、ポリプロピレン製、ポリエチレン製、プロピレンとエチレンとの共重合体などポリオレフィン製の徴几性フィルムや不線布などが好ましく用いられる。特に、5~20μmと薄いセパレータを用いた場合には、充放電サイクルや高温貯蔵などにおいて電池の特性が劣化しやすく、安全性も低下するが、本発明の複合酸化物圧略を用いた電池は安定性と安全性に優別でいるため、このような薄いセパレータを用いても安定して電池を機能させることができる。

[0039]

【実施例】以下に本発明の実施例に関して説明する。ただし、本発明はそれらの実施例のみに限定されるものではない。なお、以下の実施例においては、一次粒子の粒子健は、刀倍の走査電子顕微鏡写真をもとに測定し、二次粒子の粒子怪は、マイクロトラック社製MICROTRAC HRA(Model:9320-74100)を用いてレーザー回げ式投資分布測定法により測定した。また、BET比表面積計ASAP2000を用いて測定した。また、まま、表面積計ASAP2000を用いて測定した。

【0040】(実施例1)硫酸ニッケルおよび硫酸マン

ガンをモル比1:1で含有する水溶液に水酸化ナトリウ ム水溶液およびアンモニア水を添加し、強攪拌しながら NiとMnを1:1で含有する共沈水酸化物を合成し た。これを乾燥させた後、上記共沈水酸化物 O. 2 m o Iと、0、198molのLiOH・HaOを秤量して 混合し、その混合物をエタノールで分散させてスラリー 状にした後、遊星ボールミルを用いて40分間混合し、 さらに室温で乾燥させて均一に混合された混合体を調整 した。次いでこの混合体をアルミナ製のるつぼに入れ 1 dm³/分の流量の空気気流中で700℃まで加熱 し、その温度で2時間保持することにより予備加熱を行 い、さらに900℃に昇温して12時間焼成することに より混合体を反応させて複合酸化物とした。合成した複 合酸化物を粉砕しさらにふるい分けすることにより、一 般式LiNio s Mno s Ooで表され、一次粒子 の平均粒子径: 1 μm、二次粒子の平均粒子径: 1 0 μ m、BET比表面積: 0.9m2/gのリチウム含有複 合酸化物を得た。

【0041】(実施例2)焼成温度を1000℃とし、焼成時間を20時間とした以外は実施例1と同様にして、一般式LiNi₀5Mn₀502で表され、一次粒子の平均粒子径:3μm、二次粒子の平均粒子径:10μm、BET比表面積:0.7m²/gのリチウム合有複合酸化物を得た。

【 0042】 (実施例3~6および比較例1~3) 焼成温度および焼成時間を変えて複合酸化物の合成を行い。 合成した複合酸化物を粉砕しさらにふるい分けすること により、表1に示すリチウム合有複合酸化物を得た。 なお、実施例5では、共沈水酸化物としてNi、Mnおよ びCoを5:5:2の割合で含有する水酸化物を用い、 実施例6では、Ni、MnおよびCoを1:1:1の割 合で含有する水酸化物を用いた。

【0043】(比較例4) 従来法により、一次粒子の平均粒子径:0.7μm、二次粒子の平均粒子径:7μm、BET比表面積:0.6m²/gのLiCoO₂を得た。

【0044】(比較例5) 従来法により、一次粒子の平 均粒子径:1μm、二次粒子の平均粒子径:12μm、 BET比表面積:1.8m²/gのLiMn₂O₄を得た。

[0045]

【表1】

		平均粒子径 (μm)		比表面積	合剤密度
	組成	一次粒子	二次粒子	(m²/g)	(g/cm ³)
実施例1	LiNio, sMno, sO2	1	10	0. 9	3. 0
実施例 2	LiNio, 5Mno, 5O2	3	10	0. 7	3. 0
実施例3	LiNi o. sMn o. sO2	0.8	7	1. 3	3. 0
実施例4	LáNio, sMno, sO2	0. 7	6	1. 7	2. 9
実施例 5	LiNi _{0.42} Mn _{0.42} Co _{0.16}	1	8	0. 6	3. 0
実施例 6	LiNi _{0, 33} Mn _{0, 33} Co _{0, 53}	1	10	0. 9	3. 0
比較例1	LiNi . sMn . sO .	1	3	0. 9	2. 5
比較例 2	LiNio, sMno, sO2	0. 7	4	2, 1	2. 6
比較例3	LiNio, sMno, sO2	0. 2	7	2. 8	2. 5
比較例4	LiCoO,	0. 7	7	0. 6	3. 2
比較例 5	LiMn, O4	1	1 2	1. 8	2. 6

【0046】上記実施例1~6および比較例1~5のリチウム含有複合酸化物を正極活物質として用い、非水二次電池を作製した。リチウム含有複合酸化物を94重量部とカーボンブラック3重量部を改式混合し、これにポリフッ化ビニリデンをNーメチルー2ーピロリドンに溶解したバインダー溶液を、ポリフッ化ビニリデンが3重量部となるように加え、ざらにNーメチルー2ーピリドンを加えて充分に混合してペーストを調製した。この塗料を厚さ20μmのアルミニウム結の両面に均一に塗布し、乾燥した後、ローラープレス機により加圧成形し、280mm×38mmの大きさに裁断して厚みが約170μmの滞状正極を作製した。また、作製した各正極の合剤層の重生を測定し、この値から求めた合剤の密度を表1に併せて示した。

【0047】表1より明らかなように、実施例1~6の リチウム含有複合酸化物は、一般式Li_{1+x+α}Ni $(1 - x - y + \delta) / 2 M n (1 - x - y - \delta) / 2 M$ $_{v}O_{2}$ [tttt], $0 \le x \le 0$. $0 \le x - 0$. $0 \le x + 0$ $\alpha \leq 0$. 05, $0 \leq y \leq 0$. 4 (7a), -0. $1 \leq \delta \leq$ $4 \le \delta \le 0$. 24 (ただし0. 2<y≤0. 4のとき) であって、MはMg、Ti、Cr、Fe、Co、Cu、 Zn、Al、Ge、Snからなる群から選択された1種 以上の元素]で表される組成範囲にあり、一次粒子が凝 集して二次粒子を形成した複合酸化物であって、一次粒 子および二次粒子の平均粒子径がそれぞれ本発明の請求 範囲である0.3~3µmおよび5~20µmの範囲内 であることにより、正極を構成したときの合剤密度が、 従来より汎用されている比較例4のLiCoO2とほぼ 同程度の密度となり、充填性を高めることができた。一 方、上記組成を有していても、一次粒子および二次粒子 の平均粒子径のいずれかが本発明の請求範囲を逸脱した 比較例1~3のリチウム含有複合酸化物は、合剤の密度 が低く、比較例5のLiMn₂O₄と同程度の充填性し か得られなかった。

【0048】次に、天然黒鉛92重量部、低結晶性カーボン3重量部、ボリフッ化ビニリデン5重量部を混合したペーストを厚さ10μmの銅箔の両面に均一に塗布し、乾燥した後、ローラープレス機により加圧成形し、310mm×41mmの大きさに裁断して厚みが約165μmの帯状負極を作襲した。

【0049】上記帯状正極と帯状負極との間に厚さ20 μmの微孔性ポリエチレンフィルムからなるセパレータ を配置し、渦巻状に巻回して電極体とした後、外径14 mm、高さ51、5mmの有底円筒状の電池ケース内に 挿入し、正極リード体および負極リード体の溶接を行っ た。その後、電池ケース内にエチレンカーボネートとエ チルメチルカーボネートとの体積比1:2の混合溶媒に LiPF₆を1.2mo1/1溶解させてなる非水電解 液を1.7 c m3 注入した。上記正極と負極の活物質の 質量比(正極活物質/負極活物質)は、実施例1のリチ ウム含有複合酸化物を用いた電極体では1.9とした。 【0050】上記電池ケースの開口部を常法に従って封 口して筒形の非水二次電池を作製し、放電容量の測定を 行った。20℃の環境下で、600mAの定電流で4. 2 V まで充電した後、定電圧方式で充電して、充電の合 計時間が2.5時間となるように充電を行い、120m Aの定電流で3.0Vまで放電したときの放電容量を測 定した。この結果を表2に示した。

【0051】

活物質	放電容量
個物具	(mAh)
実施例1	602
実施例2	601
実施例3	602
実施例4	586
実施例5	604
実施例 6	604
比較例1	483
比較例 2	493
比較例3	422
比較例4	6 2 0
分数例 5	510

【0052】実施例1~6のリチウム含有複合酸化物を 用いた電池は、正極合剤の充填密度が高いことにより、 LiCoO。を用いた比較例4の電池と同様に大きな放 電容量を示した。一方、比較例1~3のリチウム含有複 合酸化物を用いた電池は、活物質の充填性が低いため、 LiMn。Oaを用いた比較例5の電池と同様、低い放 電容量しか得られなかった。

【0053】また、実施例1、実施例6、比較例4およ び比較例5のリチウム含有複合酸化物を用いた電池につ いて、20℃の温度下で、上記と同様の条件での充電と 600mAの定電流で3.0Vまでの放電による充放電 サイクルを行い、100サイクル後の放電容量の割合 〔容量維持(%)〕で室温のサイクル特性を評価した。 さらに 高温でのサイクル特性を調べるため 上記のサ イクル試験を60℃の温度下でも行って、20サイクル 後の放電容量の割合「容量維持(%)」で高温のサイク ル特件を評価した.

【0054】さらに、貯蔵特性を以下のようにして評価 した。上記サイクル特性の測定と同じ充放電条件で充放 電サイクルを5回行った後に、上記充電条件で電池を充 電し、60℃の温度下で20日間貯蔵した。この貯蔵 後、上記条件で放電し、貯蔵前の容量に対する貯蔵後に 残存している容量の割合〔容量維持(%)〕を測定し た。測定後に、充放電サイクルを1サイクル行い、貯蔵 前の容量に対する貯蔵後の容量の割合「容量回復

(%) 〕を測定した。上記容量維持および容量回復の割 合により高温での貯蔵特性を評価した。これらの結果を 表3に示した。

[0055]

【表3】

	サイクル特性/容量維持(%)		貯藏特性		
活物質	20℃	60℃	容量維持 (%)	容量回復(%)	
実施例1	9 3	98	8 8	9 9	
実施例6	9 5	9.8	8 7	9 9	
比較例4	90	9 4	8 0	9 4	
比較例 5	7 5	9 2	7 2	8 2	

【0056】表3より明らかなように、実施例1および 実施例6のリチウム含有複合酸化物を正極に用いること により、サイクル特性および貯蔵特性に優れた電池が構 成できたが、LiCoOっやLiMn。Oaを用いた場 合は、本発明のリチウム含有複合酸化物よりもサイクル 特性や貯蔵特性が劣っていた。この原因を調べるため、 以下の実験を行った。実施例1、比較例4および比較例 5のリチウム含有複合酸化物を用いた正極をアルゴン雰 囲気中で直径15mmに切り取り、5mlの電解液に浸 漬して、60℃で5日間保持した。こうして得られた電 解液にICP分光分析を行い、電解液中に溶出したMn およびCoの濃度を定量した。溶出量を複合酸化物1g あたりに換算した値を表4に示した。

[0057] 【表4】

複合酸化物1gあたりの溶出量 (μg) Мn C o 実施例1 4. 9 比較例4 18.7 【0058】実施例1のリチウム含有複合酸化物は、比

較例5のLiMn。〇。よりもMnの溶出量が1桁小さ く、高温で貯蔵した場合でも、電解液へのMnの溶解が 充分に抑制されていることがわかった。実施例1のMn 溶出量は、比較例4のLiCoO。のCo溶出量よりも 少なく、高温での耐久性に優れた材料であることがわか る。LiMnoOaは、高温になるとMnの溶解が起こ り、高温で充放電サイクルをした場合や、高温で貯蔵し た場合に容量の劣化が著しいことが知られているが、表 4の結果はそれを裏付けている。一方、LiCoO 。は、そのような問題が生じにくい材料であるが、本発 明のリチウム含有複合酸化物が、このLiCo〇。より もさらに優れた材料であることは明らかである。

【0059】(実施例7)実施例1で会成したリチウム 含有複合酸化物を二次粒子径の平均値が5μmになるま で粉砕、ふるい分けし、リチウム含有複合酸化物Bを得 た。次いで、一般式LiNio 5 Mno 5 O2で表 され、一次粒子の平均粒子径:1μm 一次粒子の平均 粒子径:10μm、BET比表面積:0.9m2/gで ある実施例1のリチウム含有複合酸化物Aと 上記リチウ ム含有複合酸化物Bとを60:40の重量比率で混合 し、これを正極活物質として用いることにより前記と同 様の非水二次電池を作製した。

【0060】(実施例8)リチウム全有複合酸化物Bの 一次粒子の平均粒子径を3μmとした以外は実施例7と 同様にして非水二次電池を作製した。

【0061】(実施例9)リチウム含有複合酸化物Aと リチウム含有複合酸化物Bとの重量比率をRO・20と した以外は実施例8と同様にして非水二次電池を作製し

【0062】(実施例10)リチウム含有複合酸化物A とリチウム含有複合酸化物Bとの重量比率を95:5と した以外は実施例8と同様にして非水二次電池を作製し た。

【0063】(実施例11)リチウム全有複合酸化物R の二次粒子の平均粒子径を7μmとした以外は実施例7 と同様にして非水二次電池を作製した。

【0064】上記実施例7~11についても、前述と同 様にして、電池組み立て前の正極合剤の密度と、非水二 次電池の放電容量の測定を行った。その結果を実施例1 の結果と併せて表5に示した。これより明らかなよう に、本発明のリチウム含有複合酸化物Aを、その二次粒 子の平均粒子径の3/5以下の平均粒子径を有するリチ ウム含有複合酸化物Bと混合して用いた実施例7~9の 非水二次電池では、正極合剤の密度が大きくなり、活物 質の充填性が向上して電池の放電容量を増加させること ができた。一方、リチウム含有複合酸化物Bの平均粒子 径は充分小さいが、その混合割合が少ない実施例10 や、リチウム含有複合酸化物Bの平均粒子径がリチウム 含有複合酸化物Aとさほどかわらない実施例11の非水 二次電池では、リチウム含有複合酸化物Aを単純で使用 した実施例1と同程度の正極合剤密度および放電容量と なり、活物質の混合による効果は明確とならなかった。 [0065]

[表5]

				12()1		
		複合酸化物 B の 平均粒子径	Bの平均粒 子径/Aの	Bの割合 (重量%)	正極合剤密度	放電容量 (mAh)
1		(μm)	平均粒子径	122,0	(g/cm³)	(III)
	実施例1	-	-	0	3. 0	602
-	実施例7	5	5/10	40	3. 1	620
	実施例8	3	3/10	4 0	3. 2	633
	実施例 9	3	3/10	20	3. 2	635
ļ	実施例10	3	3/10	5	3. 0	605
	実施例11	7	7/10	40	3. 0	602

[0066]

【発明の効果】以上説明したように、本発明では、充填 性が高く、高温下でのサイクル耐久性や高温貯蔵時の安 定性に優れたリチウム含有複合酸化物を用いることによ り、高容量で、サイクル耐久性および高温下での貯蔵性 に優れた非水二次電池を提供することができる。さら に、本発明で用いるリチウム複合酸化物は、Coに比べ て資源的に豊富で安価なMnやNiを主要な構成元素と しているので、大量生産にも適しており、また電池のコ スト低減にも貢献できるものである。

フロントページの続き

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